

Claim Amendments:

Please cancel claims 33, 34, 39 and 45-55.

Please amend claims 10, 11, 15, 25, 30, and 38, without prejudice or disclaimer, as follows:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A test kit for detecting a target polynucleotide in a test sample, said test kit comprising a container containing at least one polynucleotide ~~having at least 50% identity with a polynucleotide~~ selected from the group consisting of ~~SEQUENCE ID NO. 1, SEQUENCE ID NO. 2, SEQUENCE ID NO. 3, SEQUENCE ID NO. 4, SEQUENCE ID NO. 5~~ SEQ ID NO: 5 and complements thereof.

11. (Currently amended) A purified polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence ~~that has at least 50% identity with a polynucleotide~~ selected from the group consisting of ~~SEQUENCE ID NO. 1, SEQUENCE ID NO. 2, SEQUENCE ID NO. 3, SEQUENCE ID NO. 4, SEQUENCE ID NO. 5~~ SEQ ID NO: 5 and complements thereof.

12. (Original) The purified polynucleotide of claim 11, wherein said polynucleotide is produced by recombinant techniques.

13. (Original) The purified polynucleotide of claim 11, wherein said polynucleotide is produced by synthetic techniques.

14. (Previously amended) The purified polynucleotide of claim 11, wherein said polynucleotide comprises a sequence encoding at least one epitope.

15. (Currently amended) A recombinant expression system comprising a nucleic acid sequence operably linked to a control sequence compatible with a desired host, wherein said nucleic acid sequence ~~has at least 50% identity with a polynucleotide~~ is selected from the group consisting of ~~SEQUENCE ID NO. 1, SEQUENCE ID NO. 2, SEQUENCE ID NO. 3, SEQUENCE ID NO. 4, SEQUENCE ID NO. 5~~ SEQ ID NO: 5 and complements thereof.

16. (Original) A cell transfected with the recombinant expression system of claim 15.

17-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising at least one epitope, said method comprising incubating host cells under conditions sufficient to produce a polypeptide, wherein said host cells have been transfected with an expression vector containing a polynucleotide sequence

encoding a polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of ~~SEQUENCE ID NO. 17, SEQUENCE ID NO. 18, SEQUENCE ID NO. 19, SEQUENCE ID NO. 20~~ comprising SEQ ID NO: 17.

26-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently amended) A cell transfected with a nucleic acid sequence encoding at least one epitope, wherein said nucleic acid sequence is selected from the group consisting comprises of ~~SEQUENCE ID NO. 1, SEQUENCE ID NO. 2, SEQUENCE ID NO. 3, SEQUENCE ID NO. 4, SEQUENCE ID NO. 5~~ SEQ ID NO: 5, and complements thereof encodes a polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 90% to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting comprising of ~~SEQUENCE ID NO. 17, SEQUENCE ID NO. 18, SEQUENCE ID NO. 19, and SEQUENCE ID NO. 20~~ SEQ ID NO: 17.

31-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently amended) A composition of ~~matter~~ comprising a purified polynucleotide wherein said polynucleotide ~~has at least 50% identity with a polynucleotide~~ is selected from the group consisting of ~~SEQUENCE ID NO. 1,~~

~~SEQUENCE ID NO. 2, SEQUENCE ID NO. 3, SEQUENCE ID NO. 4,~~
~~SEQUENCE ID NO. 5~~ SEQ ID NO: 5 and complements thereof.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Original) The test kit of claim 10 further comprising a container with tools useful for collection of said samples, wherein the tools are selected from the group consisting of lancets, absorbent paper, cloth, swabs and cups.

36-37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently amended) A purified polynucleotide which codes for a polypeptide which comprises an amino acid sequence ~~with at least 90% identity to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO. 17, SEQUENCE ID NO. 18, SEQUENCE ID NO. 19, SEQUENCE ID NO. 20~~ comprising SEQ ID NO: 17.

39-55. (Canceled)